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Welcome back to the 2007-2008 Hockey Season

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GENESSE AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION G. A. H. A.

Ramparts News

Welcome back

to the 2007-2008 Ramparts Season. This year the Ramparts will field 14 teams and a beginners hockey program. GAHA sponsored practice times will begin Labor day, Monday September 3rd.

G.A.H.A. would like to welcome aboard Past President and current President John Zola and new tournament director John Hylkema. Returning positions and board members this year: Mike Reich: Coaching Committee, Tom Aldinger: Vice President of Travel, Gerald Wolcott: Vice President of Empire, Judy Cornell Secretary, Jodi Nichols and Stacey Cory Sponsorship and fundraising, Jennifer Bower Ice Scheduling, Al Kurek Coaching Committee, Pam Taylor Registrar.

Empire Try Outs:

If your child has not yet been placed on a travel roster and you are interested in him/her playing at a team level please have them attend the Empire ice time/tryouts for their age group during the first three weeks of September. During this time players will have an opportunity to get back on their skates and then be evaluated by our coaches to determine at what level they will be best placed. New skaters who continue to require skill development may be referred to the beginners program as a primary or supplemental program. Coaches will communicate closely with you in making a decision on the best and most enjoyable placement of your child for the upcoming hockey season.

Age group break downs by birth year for Empire tryouts:

Mite: 1999 & younger

Squirt: 1997-1998

PeeWee: 1995-1996

Bantam: 1993-1994

Midget: 1992 & older

*Please note the appropriate age bracket for your child to attend Empire Ice Times.

*All players must be registered with GAHA prior to practicing. Please contact Pam Taylor if you need to register a skater.

If you would like your child to continue in the beginners program please note the beginners information in this newsletter.

2007/2008 Fees and Due Dates:

The board and budget committee has been hard at work looking at our program and fee schedules. You will note a increase in the fee structure this year. These increases reflect changes/needs in the GAHA program: Increased ice time for teams, replacement equipment and uniform needs, flexible scheduling to allow for longer practices and format flexibility, comparable resources and ice as related to other organizations, accommodation of increases in league fees, and reduced revenues and involvement in organizational level fund raising. With these required increases GAHA still remains one of the best hockey deals in the area. The board is committed to fiscally responsible management and providing quality program to our skaters.

Mite Empire: 695.00
Squirt Empire: 700.00
Squirt III: 750.00
PeeWee Empire: 700.00
PeeWee Minor: 750.00
PeeWee III: 750.00
Bantam Empire: 700.00
Bantam Minor: 795.00
Bantam III: 795.00
Midget Empire: 840.00
Midget Split: 700.00

Fees may be submitted to the lock-box in the coaches room.

Registration/Fee Payment

Contact information:

Registrar: Pam Taylor:

iamahockeymom@aol.com

Due Dates:

1st payment (half): 9/15/07

2nd payment (half): 10/15/07

Note : All players must be fully registered and have payments submitted in a timely manner to be on the ice. Special Circumstances must be arranged in advance by contacting registrar Pam Taylor .

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Beginners Program

The Ramparts had a banner year last year in the Beginners Program. Enrollment numbers were up significantly and many dedicated volunteers consistently helped our beginning skaters on the ice.

GAHA is pleased to announce that once again Joe Mahler Sr. will head up the program at this level.

Beginners registration will be at the rink **Thursday Sept. 20th 6pm-8pm and Saturday September 22nd 9:00am-12:00pm.**

The season will be broken up into two ten week enrollment periods. (20 skating sessions in each) Ice times will generally run on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. A detailed schedule will be provided to skaters at registration. A beginners cross-ice exhibition tournament will be scheduled during the Mite Classic weekend the first weekend in March.

Please note the special equipment package deals for skaters age 4-8.

Beginners Fees are due upon Registration. The fees for the 07/08 beginners program are as follows:

Fall/Winter Session:

Fee: \$99.00

w/equipment (age4-8): \$199.00

Winter/Spring Session:

Fee: \$99.00

w/equipment (age4-8): 199.00

For further information on beginners hockey contact Joe Mahler at: mmahler@rochester.rr.com or leave a message at the rink for Joe at 585-344-3991.



Sponsorship and Tournament Ads.

GAHA is currently seeking team and organizational sponsors. If you know of a business that supports youth hockey and would like to sponsor a GAHA team or become a organization sponsor please contact Jody Nichols at jlnmk@yahoo.com. We have several sponsorship levels for any size business or individual.

All GAHA players are required to sell a minimum of one advertisement and our encouraged to sell as many as they can. All fundraisers go to off set the costs of playing hockey in Batavia. Forms will be available in early September at the rink and will also be passed out by coaches. Please begin thinking about who you can ask now.

The five S's of sports training are: stamina, speed, strength, skill, and spirit, but the greatest of these is spirit" - Ken Doherty

New Zamboni

The City of Batavia has approved a new Zamboni for the ice rink and is currently seeking bids. On behalf of Youth Hockey and the GAHA family we would like to Thank rink supporters for this desperately needed replacement. Please stop by the coaches room and sign our appreciation banner.

Coaches

GAHA is extremely excited about the caliber of coaches we will field this year at both the Travel and Empire levels. Thank-you to all of these dedicated individuals. Some Empire coaching assignments will be made in September.

Coaches:

Mite A: Dan Hudson

Mite B: Tim Hens

Squirt A: Al Kurek

Squirt B: TBA

Squirt III: Ange Polito

PeeWee Empire: TBA

PeeWee Minor: Mark Simmons

PeeWee III: Dan Eckerson

Bantam Minor: Jeff Bates

Bantam III: Marc Staley

Bantam Empire: TBA

Midget A: Joe Miano

Midget B: Tom Cervone

Midget Split: Mike Adams

Should you have any questions regarding tryouts please speak to the coach in charge of your session.

Home Tournaments

Fall Classic—Nov. 2nd-4th

Squirt III & PeeWee Minor

Winter Classic—January 19th-21st

PW III, Bant. III and Bant. Minor

Spring Kick-Off Classic—Feb. 16th-18th

Squirt A and Squirt B

Mite Classic—March 1st-2nd

Mite A, Mite B, Beginners Exhibition

Spring Classic II—March 7th-9th

Pee Wee B & Bantam B

Midget Spring Classic—March 15th-16th

Midget A and Midget B

For further information on tournaments contact tournament director John Hylkema at: jhylkema@rochester.rr.com

Special Ramparts Thanks!!!

The GAHA Board and all of our skaters would like to send out a special Thank-you to two local businesses for their support of youth hockey. Freed Maxick and Battaglia supplied a person to do our accounting for the upcoming year. Genesee Lumber donated paint for the rink locker rooms, and concession area. (Also, Thanks go out to the Hylkema and Turnbull families (of GAHA) for putting that paint on the walls.)



Freed Maxick & Battaglia, PC
Certified Public Accountants

Genesee Lumber CO. Inc.

76 Franklin Street. Batavia NY. 14020

September Practice Schedule:

Monday 9/3	Tuesday 9/4	Wed 9/5	Thursday 9/6	Friday 9/7	Saturday 9/8	Sunday 9/9
5-5:50 MireEmp. 6-7:10 SqrIII/PWEmp 7:20-8:30 BantEmp/BantMin 8:40-9:50 MidEmp	5-6 SqrEmp 6:10-7:20 PWNMin 6:40-7:50 PWIII 8-9:20 BantIII 8:30-9:50 MidSpl	8:50-10 Mi- dEmp	5-5:50 SqrEmp 6-7 PWIII/PWEmp 7:10-8:20 Bant- Min/BantEmp 8:30-9:25 Bant III 8:55-9:50 MidSpl	5-5:50 MireEmp 6-6:50 SqrIII/PWNMin	9am-10 MireEmp 10:10am-11:10 SqrEmp 1pm-2 SqrIII 2:10pm-3:30 PWEmp 3:40pm-4:50 PWNMin 5pm-6:20 PWIII 6:30pm-7:50 BantEmp	11:30am-12:50 PW Checking Clinic 2:40pm-4 Sqr Power Skate 4:10pm-5:40 BantMin 5:50pm-7:10 Bant III 7:20pm-8:50 MidEmp

Monday 9/10	Tuesday 9/11	Wed 9/12	Thursday 9/13	Friday 9/14	Saturday 9/15	Sunday 9/16
5-5:50 MireEmp. 6-7:10 SqrIII/PWEmp 7:20-8:30 BantEmp/BantIII 8:40-9:50 MidEmp	5-5:50 SqrEmp 6-7:10 PW Checking Clinic 7:20-8:30 BantEmp/BantMin 8:40-9:50 BantIII/MidSpl	8:50-10:20 <i>MidSpl vs Bad Bakerwell</i>	5-5:50 SqrEmp 6-7 PWNMin/PWIII 7:10-8:20 BantMin/MidSpl 8:30-9:50 MidEmp	5-5:50 MireEmp 6-6:50 SqrIII/PWEmp	9am-10 MireEmp 10:10am-11:10 SqrEmp 1pm-2 SqrIII 2:10pm-3:30 PWNMin 3:40pm-4:50 PWEmp 5pm-6:20 PWIII 6:30pm-7:50 BantIII	11:30am-12:50 BantMin 2:40pm-4 BantEmp 4:10pm-5:40 Sqr. Power Skate 5:50pm-7 PW Power Skate 7:10pm-8:50 MidEmp

Monday 9/17	Tuesday 9/18	Wed 9/19	Thursday 9/20	Friday 9/21	Saturday 9/22	Sunday 9/23
5-5:50 MireEmp. 6-7:10 PWNMin/PWEmp 7:20-8:30 BantEmp/BantIII 8:40-9:50 MidEmp	5-5:50 SqrEmp 6-7 SqrIII/PWIII 7:10-8:15 BantMin 7:35-8:30 MidSpl 8:40-9:50 MidEmp	8:50-10:20 <i>MidSpl vs W/beatfield (scrtn)</i>	Beginners Registration 6pm-8pm 5-5:50 SqrEmp 6-7:10 PW Power Skate 7:20-8:20 Bant Emp/BantMin 8:30-9:25 BantIII 8:55-9:50 MidSpl	5-5:50 MireEmp 6-6:50 SqrIII	Beginners Registration 9am-12pm 8am-8:50 MireB 9am-9:50 SqrA 10am-11:10 PWIII 1pm-2 SqrIII 2:10pm-3:20 PWNMin 3:30pm-4:40 BantEmp 4:50pm-6:10 BantMin 6:20pm-7:40 BantIII <i>7:50pm-9:20 MidSpl vs Coyotes</i>	11:30am-12:50 MidA 2:40pm-4 Ref Clinic 4:10pm-5 MireA 5:10pm-6 SqrB 6:10pm-7:10 PWEmp 7:20-8:40 MidB

Practice Notes and News:

Flex Practices – You will notice some overlapping practices. These overlapping practices are a combination of shared and solo ice. (w/no ice cut in between) Please do not enter the ice until the exact time of your practice and your team coach is present and please exit the ice promptly when your time is over. Coaches will speak to players in more detail about these practices.

Clinics – All skaters on all GAHA teams at the level indicated are encouraged to participate for a specialized skill development session.

Games – Games are indicated in Italics. Everyone is encouraged to come out and support other Ramparts teams.

As a result of increased ice time parents should note some changes from previous years. These changes include some longer and or flex practices for squirt and older players. More ice time means longer ice hours so Mites and Squirts should be prepared for 5pm start times and Bantams and Midgets should be prepared for 10pm end times during the week.

Presidents Letter : Welcome to Batavia Hockey by John Zola

Greetings to all GAHA families. Hockey season is here. Let's all prepare for a fun and growing 2007-2008 hockey season! The Board of Directors has been working very hard through spring and summer to make this season as successful as ever.

As a board we reluctantly said goodbye to our treasurer Kara Mancuso and tournament director Bill Kusmierski. Kara and her family are moving to the East Rochester area and Bill had changes in his employment situation. Kara and Bill were both hard workers on the board and are greatly missed. Our best wishes to both.

Board member John Hylkema agreed to take on the enormous task of tournament director. Any parents who would like to help out with the tournaments can contact John. Tournament help is always needed. Filling Kara's shoes as treasurer, GAHA received a "treasure" of a gift. The accounting firm of Freed, Maxick and Battaglia volunteered one of their young up and coming accountants, Scott Klotzbach, to take on the position of GAHA treasurer. The position also includes Scott being a GAHA board member. Scott has three young children - potential GAHA players. The Board and GAHA owes the accounting firm of Freed, Maxick and Battaglia a huge debt of gratitude, in particular firm partner Paul Battaglia, who put this plan in motion. If you know Paul or members of this accounting firm, express to them thanks from our hockey community.

We'll be seeing everyone soon around the rink. All PeeWee and Squirt players - don't miss your upcoming clinics on the schedule in early September. Best of luck to all teams, especially split season midgets and coach Adams, whose season starts September 1st.

Stay positive and Go GAHA.

John Zola.

Board Contact Information:

John Zola (President): jjzola@rochester.rr.com
Tom Aldinger (VP of Travel): tomaldinger@yahoo.com
Gerry Wolcott (VP of Empire): gwolcott36@rochester.rr.com
Pam Taylor (Registrar/Equipment): iamahockeymom@aol.com
Jennifer Bower (Ice Scheduling): wolcottjen@aol.com
Stacey Cory (Fund Raising/Sponsorship): scory@oahornets.org
Jody Nichols (Fund Raising/Sponsorship): hockeymom5166@yahoo.com
John Hylkema (Tournament Director): jhylkema@rochester.rr.com
Al Kurek (Coaching Committee): kurek63@rochester.rr.com
Mike Reich (Coaching Committee): Michael.w.reich@smithbarney.com
Judy Cornell (Secretary): jcornell@Orconind.com

Payment Coupons:

Payment 1: Due September 15th.
Team: _____
Player: _____
Amount enclosed: _____
Payment 2: Due October 15th.
Team: _____
Player: _____
Amount enclosed: _____